Ring of the Nibelung

Volume 1

Prologue: The Rhine Gold

RYO AZUMI

BASED ON THE OPERA BY RICHARD WAGNER

Ein Bühnenfestspiel für drei Tage und einen Vorabend "Der Ring des Nibelungen"

Characters in The Ring of the Nibelung

Sieglinde
The younger twin sister of Siegmund.

Hunding
Sieglinde's husband.

Brunnhilde
The daughter of Wotan and Erda. A Valkyrie.

Gerhilde Helmwige Waltraute Schwertleite Ortlinde Siegrune Grimgerde Rossweisse
The Valkyries, the daughters of Wotan

Siegfried
The son of siblings Siegmund and Sieglinde.
A member of the Volsung clan.

The Norn sisters
The goddesses of fate and daughters of Erda.

Gunther
Head of the Gibichungs.

Hagen
Gunther's brother by a different father.
The son of Alberich.

Gutrune
The younger sister of Gunther.

<Order of appearance in opera>

Rhine Maidens
The three Rhine nymph sisters who guard the gold.

Alberich
A Nibelung. The ruler of Nibelheim, the underground realm.

Wotan
King of the heavenly gods. The lord of Valhalla castle.

Fricka
The wife of Wotan and goddess of marriage and ethics.

Freia
The younger sister of Fricka. The goddess of youth and beauty.

Fasolt Fafner
Brothers of a tribe of giants.

Froh
The older brother of Freia. The god of fertility.

Donner
The god of thunder.

Loge
A cunning demigod who rules over fire.

Mime
The younger brother of Alberich. A Nibelung.

Erda
The goddess of the earth and wisdom.

Siegmund
Wotan's son by a human woman. A member of the Volsung clan.

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Characters

The Ring of the Nibelung
Prologue: The Rhine Gold

The Ring of the Nibelung Prologue: The Rhine Gold

This epic, one of the most renowned operas...
...takes more than 50 hours to perform in its entirety.
Bayreuther Festspielhaus
The first performance was in 1876.
It took place in a town called Bayreuth in southern Germany.
Wagner had a great deal of selfconfidence.
A theater was built specifically for this purpose, and he called the performance a "festival."
Richard Wagner
(1813 — 1883)

This ancient, universal myth...
I remember a world where gods, nymphs, and even humans lived together.
The ring.
This myth tells the story about a mysterious gold ring.
You ask who I am?
TAK
Oh.
Me?

I am only an outsider.
An on-looker.
SWOOSH
I am the flame.
I am the only one...
...
This tale of foolish, sorrowful gods, humans, and the Nibelung...
...who watched this story unfold from beginning to end.

And now, the curtain rises.
From the deep, blue-green bottom of the Rhine...
...
...I can hear...
...voices singing.

The Ring of the Nibelung
Prologue: The Rhine Gold

La la...
La la...
Oh, undulating waves. Oh, holy waves.
La la... Like a cradle...
Vaiaala...
Vaia...
La la...

Wait, you little minx!
You won't catch me, sister.
HAHA
HEE HEE
You can't just fool around all day.
We're the protectors.
We watch over the sleeping gold.
GASP
Hey!
You nymphs!
Today, I will fulfill my desires at last...
The river nymphs are always so lovely...
SLURP

Come down here!
Won't you let me play too?
I've come from the underground realm...
...to express my yearning for your love.
Who is that?
He's Alberich.
Oh, him again!
Alberich the Nibelung.
He's so disgusting!
What a lovesick fool.
Should we tease him?
He he he... that sounds like fun.
I want to touch you, and embrace you...
I beg you for your love!

I can't swim that fast!
PUFF
HUFF
SPLASH
SPLISH
SPLASH
Ha ha ha...
Dwarf!
If you want me, try and catch me!
Okay!
SWISH
You look like a toad and your voice is as hoarse as a crow!
Your beard is so lovely, and your hair is like thorns.
Oh, what a lovely girl! I'm about to explode with
Ha-hand-some? Me?
You dear thing.
My sisters are so cruel.
Gulp...
How can they tease such a handsome man?

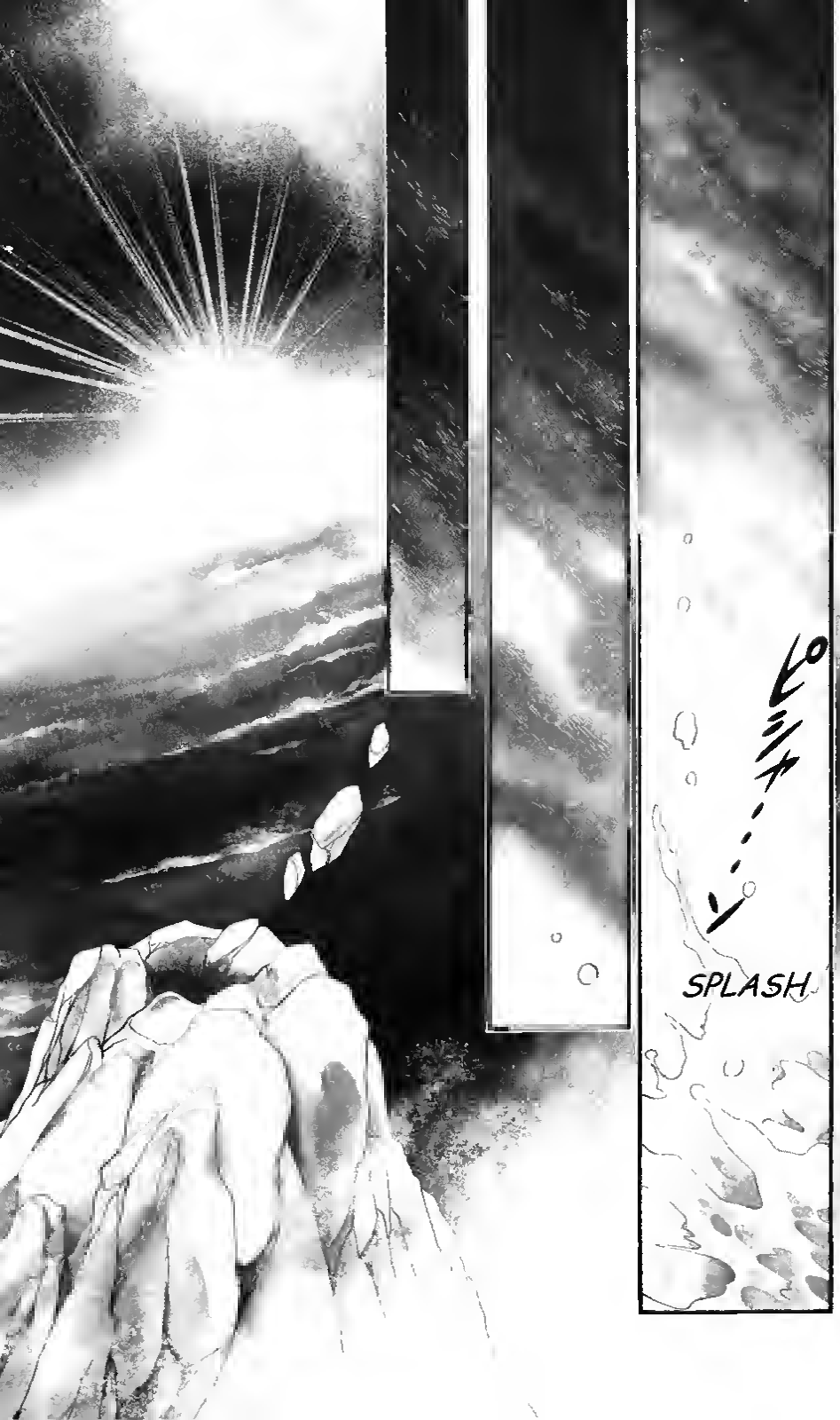
HA HA
HA HA HA
Do you think any woman could ever love you?
Take a good look at yourself.
You're a monster.
You repulse me!
HA-HA-HA!
You...
...but I won't be mocked and tormented like this.
Sure, I may be ugly...
You... you wicked nymphs!
THUNK
THUMP
THUMP
Ugh!
CLUNK
Ah!
I will catch one of you, no matter what!
ARGH

La la la...
What is that sparkling light?
Wha... what is this?
Hi-aayaa ...
Haiya ...
It's the Rhine Gold.
The sunlight is saluting the gold.
The Rhine Gold ...
La...
Laiya...
Ugh... Don't you know anything? You've never heard of the Rhine Gold?
It's nothing that concerns a dwarf.
He will have the power to rule the world.
Whoever forges a ring out of this gold will be granted boundless power.

Yes...
It's not like the ring can be made by just anybody.
That lewd Alberich could never aspire to that.
What!?
Don't tell him that.
Oh, it's fine.
Only a person who has forsaken the joy of love...
...will be granted the mysterious power to forge the ring.
Only a person who has forsaken love...
...shall have the ring to rule the world.

For a man as unsightly as me...
...
...winning the love of a woman is an impossible dream.
Therefore, I must choose a different way to live.
Yes! That's a fine idea.
You frivolous, big-mouthed harpies.
You will regret this day!
DASH!
Your treasure is mine!
NOOOO!
I will forsake love and take my revenge!

The gold...
FWOOOM
The gold?
SHUF
...


SPLASH

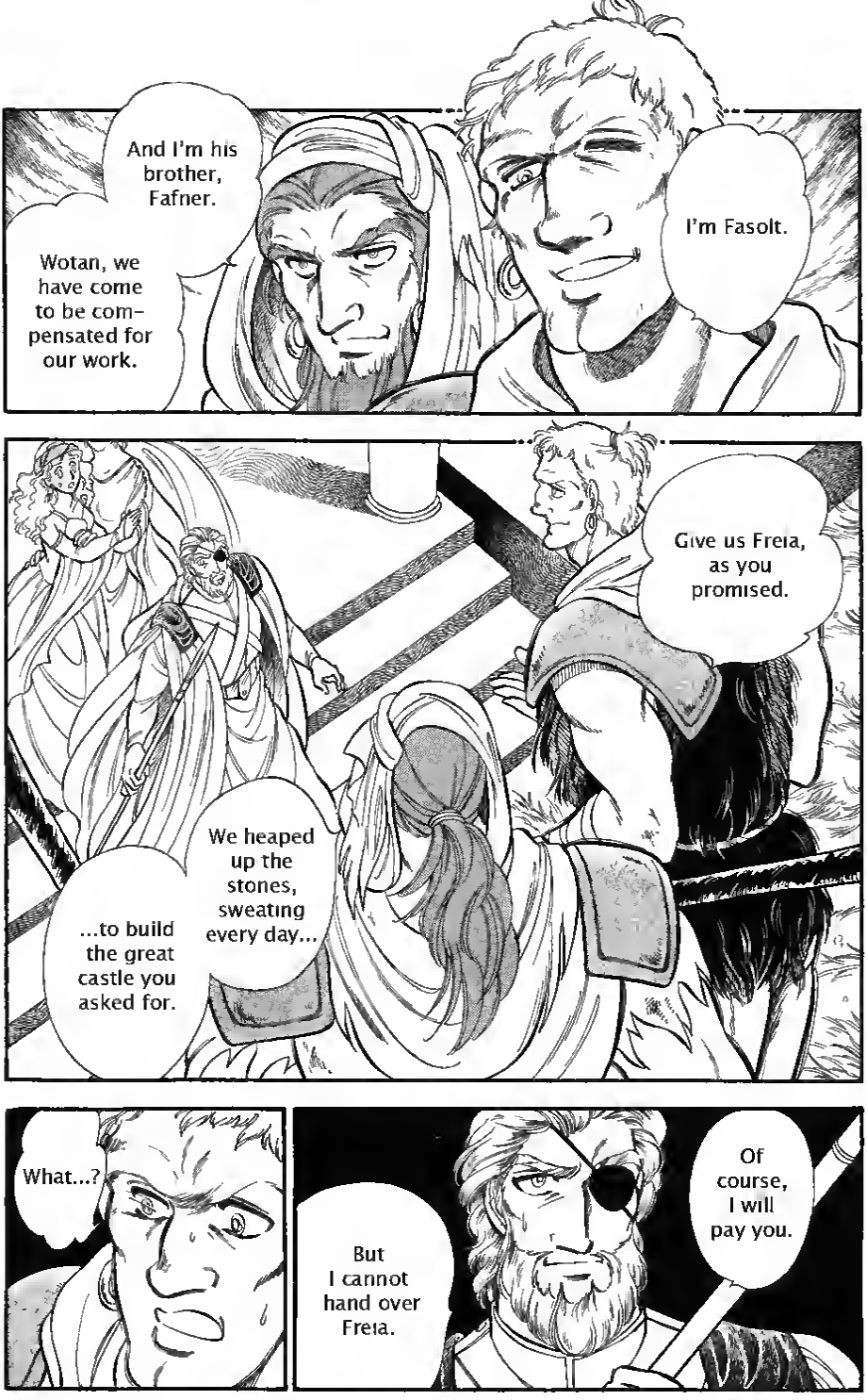
Return the Rhine Gold!
Give it back...
Hm? Where are those lamenting shrieks coming from?
Who dares disturb the slumber and pleasant dreams of the king of the gods?
Darling...
Wake up!
What? Oh, it's you, Fricka.
You must wake up! The castle has been completed.
The castle?
Darling!
Wotan!

Oh...
It's mag-
nificent!

Do you realize what this means?
How can you be so carefree?
That was fast.
The giants certainly are talented carpenters.
Now that the castle is built...
...we must pay for it.
You promised to give my younger sister Freia to the giants.
I didn't mean it, of course.
That was just a method of persuasion.
... Are you listening to me!?
Then tell me how you will compensate them, right now!
But wow, that is quite a castle.
You're so cold and selfish!
You say this castle is a stronghold for defense, but to me it just looks like an embodiment of your desire for domination!
This time, you even offered up my sister without consulting me...
You always make decisions all by yourself.

I don't know how much more I can stand.
There she goes again with her haran-guing...
You're the one who said we should build a castle.
I just wanted a warm place to live.
I wanted a nice home where you would stay instead of going out and taking up with other women! Not a fortress like this...
SOB...
My dear wife...
...the goddess of mar-riage and ethics.
You lie!
...more than you know.
I revere you...
Frick! My sister!

THOOM!
Impudent fools...
How dare they enter the garden of the gods!
THOOM
Freia!
Sister, brother, you must help me!
The giants are coming to take me away!


I'm Fasolt.
And I'm his brother, Fafner.
Wotan, we have come to be compensated for our work.
Give us Freia, as you promised.
We heaped up the stones, sweating every day...
...to build the great castle you asked for.
What...?
Of course, I will pay you.
But I cannot hand over Freia.

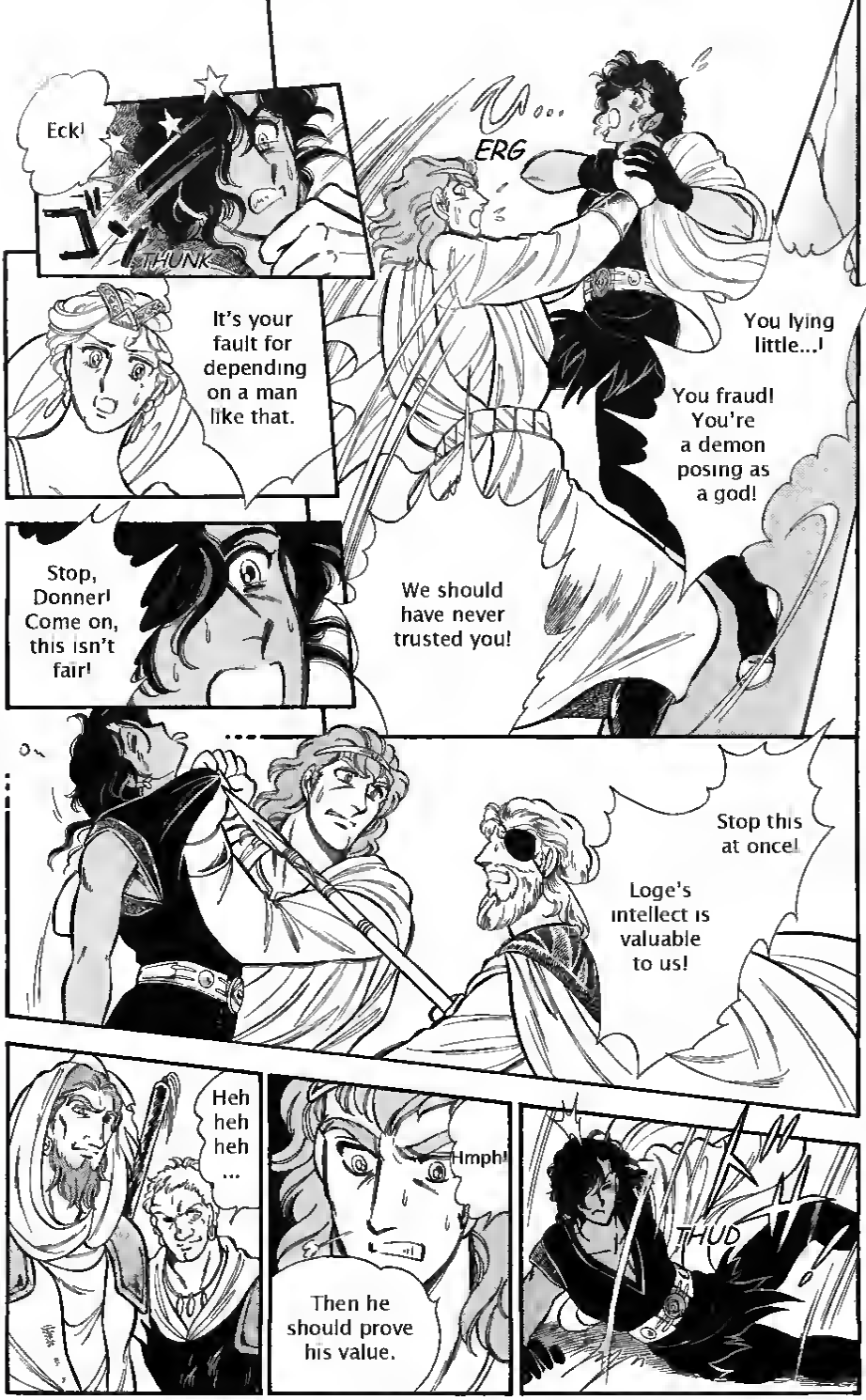
Hmph!
Haha! Brother, you are much too naive.
Fafner, be silent!
I figured this would happen.
Have you deceived us!?
I was joking! You can't have taken me seriously.
Freia is clearly not a good match for a pair of boors like you.
TWITCH
Wotan, king of the gods...
...failing to keep a promise is unforgivable.
Your very reign holds true on a sacred agreement.
No matter how trivial the agreement is...
This deal was his idea.
Where is Loge?
I need his wisdom at a time like this.

If you are to abandon your spirit of fairness...
...then we will break our peace pact with you!
How about a hammer in the face as payment, you rotten giants!
Freia will never be yours!
What!?
We are merely asking for our just reward.
Ha!
Go ahead and try!
THUNK
THUNK
Be calm... We will protect you.
Froh!

WHOOM
CRASH
Eek!
GRIPPA
Foolish giants!
You lying gods!
Donner! Giants! Stop this violence!
I'll do it! I'll abide by the agree-ment!
BWOOF
Dar-ling!
Wotan is going to abandon me!

Loge!
Where have you been? Come here quickly.
GULP
Whew... This doesn't look good.
Heh heh heh...
Heh heh...
I've done it.
I have created the ring!
Yikes ...
Heh heh heh... ha ha
The ring of power!
Behold ...

AHEM
Well...
What a magnificent castle!
They've really outdone themselves, huh?
The stonework is flawless.
PAT
Huh?
Oh... Uhh...
How is this deal to be completed?
I'm sure you have an idea.
An idea? Me?
Ha ha...
I did say we'd think of something if it came to that, but...
YANK
Whoa!


Eck!
THUNK
ERG
It's your fault for depending on a man like that.
You lying little...!
You fraud! You're a demon posing as a god!
Stop, Donner! Come on, this isn't fair!
We should have never trusted you!
Stop this at once!
Loge's intellect is valuable to us!
Heh heh heh ...
Hmph!
Then he should prove his value.
THUD

Ow... that hurt...
Why do I always have to go through this?
I'm doing all I can to serve you gods, and this is the thanks I get, huh?
Even just now ...
...I was going around the world to find something of value that can replace Freia as payment.
But this world is impove-rished.
That's true.
To a man, the love of a woman is the greatest treasure.
Its value is beyond anything found in the fields, moun-tains, waters, underground, or sky.
Hmm...
Hmm... I do love women.
No man would forsake love.
You'd think that, right?

Albe-
rich?
A bearded man of the Ni-belung.
His name is Alberich.
Yet, there is one man who did.
The Rhine Maidens turned down his confession of love.
To take his revenge, he obtained a certain something.
Ah...
Behold!
A treasure that is more precious than love.
With this, I am the king of Nibelheim!
The world is mine!

I am the supreme ruler!
Both the earth and the heavens...
...even the gods must obey my will!
What can that be?
Something more precious than love?
HA HA HA
GWA HA HA
HA HA
The ring of power.
The Rhine Gold.

Come back to us...
Rhine Gold, Rhine Gold...
Sparkling gold....

And so...
I promised them I would tell you so.
That wraps up my report.
I could hear the cries of the Rhine Maidens...
...as they lamented over their gold.
Wotan.
The maidens are begging you, the king of the gods...
...to return the gold.
I have enough problems of my own...
...and you want me to worry about someone else's problems?
I said you are a fool.
Huh?
Fool.

Considering that the dwarf wanted the gold...
...it must be something special, right?
Hey, Loge.
Tell me more.
How can you say something like that?
How mean!
Oh, but those poor mai-dens!
He will become the ruler of the world.
...gives its master infinite power.
The ring forged from the gold...
Well, we can't just let a Nibelung have it!
Who knows what that cunning Alberich is scheming?

SHIMMER
SWF
THWOK
SWISH
Is that Alberich?
Oh...
Do not dare defy me!
Hurry up and pile that trea-sure over here!
All you Nibe-lung!
Move! No slacking off!

I've heard rumors of this "Rhine Gold" before as well.
I've heard that...
It seems the ring...
...is already displaying its power.
...no one knows the secret of the runes...
...for forging a ring from the gold.
However, they say only a man who has forsaken human love can do it.
Alberich, who has forsaken love.
Yet, Alberich has already created the ring.
That's right.
Now... Who will possess the ring?

Who shall rule the world!?
SWOOSH
THUNK
The true master of this ring...
...shall be none other than myself!

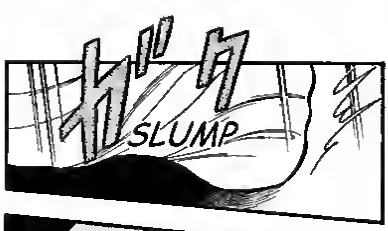
So, Loge.
Do you have an idea?
You must seize it!
So... Could a woman wear the ring?
I've heard it can be used to keep a husband from straying.
Oh... darling!
We must have this ring!
...
Forget those river nymphs!
It's what those wicked girls deserve.
Oh, and you should return it to the Rhine Maidens, of course.
Steal back...
...what the thief stole!
MUTTER ヒソヒソ...
ヒソ... WHISPER
Brother.
It's simple justice! What could be simpler?

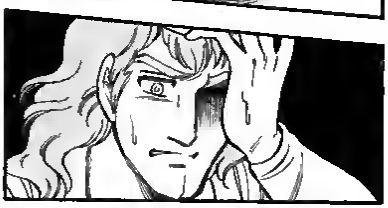
Even the gods are discussing theft.
Greed and desire is filling their hearts.
Hmm... I don't know ...
We can't pass up this opportunity.
This ring could be even more valuable than Freia.
So what if we lose her?
Hmm...
With the magic power of the ring, you could have all the girls you want.
GASP
Are you telling me to give up on the girl?

What!?
Wotan!
We will take the ring.
Whoa... Fafner...
Sounds good, right?
In exchange for giving up on Freia as our payment...
The gold will have to do.
Um ...
NUDGE
Right!
Bring it to us by this evening.
But until then...
...we will take Freia hostage.
TUG
Come on, girl!
Eeek!

Wait, you brutes!
Freia!
Help me! Please!
If you don't pay the ransom by the deadline...
...Freia is ours!
Heh... Don't worry. The gods have no choice but to listen to us.
Right, Wotan?
GRIN
Wait, Fasolt!
Fafner!
Go after them!

Freia...
Wow.
Would you look at that.


SLUMP



Don-
ner!

They're so fast!
Freia doesn't look too happy being carried on his shoulders...
Look at those daredevils go.
Ugh...

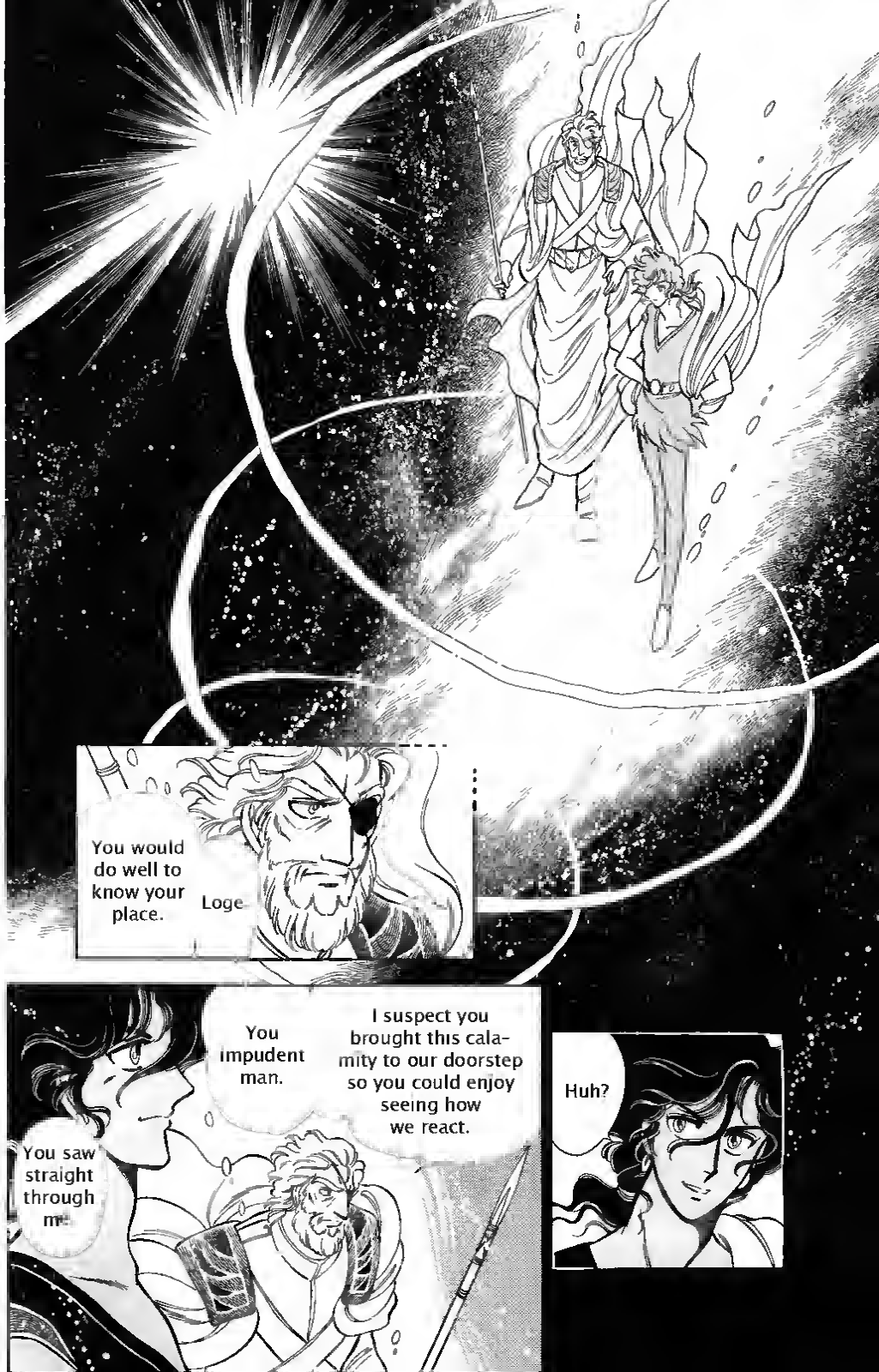
Sh...shut up!
Where's that energetic spirit of yours?
Why aren't you chasing them?

The gods suddenly look so pale.
Am I seeing things?
What is this fog...?

Your hair is as white as an old man's.
What is happening?
Wotan!
Ah! Freia's apples!
Has everyone suddenly lost their powers!?
Fricka!
Froh!
They haven't eaten them today.
That's why they're losing their youthful power.
The gods eat the apples of youth grown by Freia every day...
...to maintain their vitality.

With Freia gone, the apples will rot and fall.
Eventually, the gods will age and perish.
The giants know this.
Oh, Wotan! This is terrible!
You've been much too rash...
It seems the gods have depended too much on the apples.
But unlike you mighty lords, I'm only half god.
Freia was never kind enough to give me any apples, but...
...thanks to that, I've narrowly escaped death.
...
SWF

So you'll return it to the Rhine Maidens?
You fool! It's for Freia.
We must save her!
Loge!
Take me to Nibelheim!
We're going to steal the Rhine Gold.
Shall we cross the Rhine to the underground realm?
Yes, of course.
No, not the Rhine!
Cheeky bastard.
You all wait here.
Darling! Please be careful!
Well then...
...I will show you another path.


You would do well to know your place.
Loge
You impudent man.
I suspect you brought this calamity to our doorstep so you could enjoy seeing how we react.
You saw straight through me.
Huh?

It's too powerful for this world. It deceives the hearts of people...
The Rhine Gold will only bring trouble... It should stay on the bottom of the river.
Be silent.
I have no intention of defying you.
I just don't want to break my promise to the maidens regarding this matter.
Don't you ever forget...
...you were nothing but a fire spirit. I am the one who rescued you...
... from that unseemly lot.
It's for the sake of the gods' prosperity and safety.
Not to the Nibelung, nor the giants.
I will not hand over the ring!
To think that my castle is finally complete...
...you would have stolen the gold from the bed of the Rhine yourself.
That's what I thought... Just what I expected of you.
If it was possible to get the ring easily, without sacrificing love...
Here we are.
Nibelheim!

...
You intend to offer this gold instead of the ring?
I'll somehow have to persuade the giants with this.
Hmm...
Looks like it's quantity over quality here.
Hush!
It's a mine.
Look at all that gold!
Have you finished the item I ordered you to make?
Get over here, you lazy bum!
Ow ow ow...!
Don't pull on my ear!

You were planning on keeping it for yourself, weren't you?
You rascal!
WHIPSH
FPISH
Ahh!
It looks finished to me!
Heh heh
It still needs some work.
Here... and here.
Show it to me!
SWIP
So...
...does it have magical powers?
Hahaha! Look, brother!
Can you see me?
Huh?
POOF
He disappeared!
Wh... where is he?
FPISH

Thanks a lot, you dunce!
This is great!
SWIP
Ha ha ha!
Ha ha ha!
Ha ha ha!
WHIPSH
FPISH
Ow!
Work for my sake!
Bow down to me!
Listen, all you Nibelung!
I, Alberich, am your king!
I demand absolute obedience!

Leave me alone.
Hey there, Mime.
Why are you crying?
Sniff...
Hic...
This is Mime, Alberich's younger brother.
WHAR
じたばた
WHAP
I'm just a pathetic man who's oppressed and used by his own brother!
Let me go!
No one can help me!
If you're in trouble, we can help you, you know?
Up we go! You're like an unruly child.
That weird magic he used...
What is it...?
Erg...
FOOSH
Argh!
PAT
THUMP
Ouch!

I had no idea that the helmet concealed such terrifying power...
...and told me how to make it.
That tyrant used the magic of the ring to come up with it...
It's the Tarn-helm, the helmet of invisibi-lity.
GASP
We're trying to save the Nibelung from danger.
We're your friends.
Ah... I see.
Watch out!
He's coming!
ははは
Ha ha ha!
He's invin-cible.
It's all over for us!
WAAAH
What do you think? It doesn't look like this is going to be easy.
Now is the time for you to display your intelli-gence.
By the way, who are you?
Um ...

Huh!?
Ah!?
Mime!
Are you slacking off again?
You!
Why have you come here?
I know who these greedy visitors are.
You liars! You've come for my treasure.
コソコソ
SNEAK
...so we came to see it.
We heard a rumor that you obtained a mysterious power...

When you were still crouching in a cold hole...
...I was the one who brought you light and heat.
Without me, the Nibelung would not be able to do their prided blacksmith work.
Is that how you speak to your friend, dwarf?
You know who I am?
In that case, tell me.
Do you think you're in any position to speak ill of me?
These days, you're just a pawn of the gods.
Spare me the lecture, you opportunist!
SMACK
Well, you've got a point there.
Ha ha!
Although, it doesn't say much about the gods if they deal with the likes of you!
Alberich, you have quite an attitude.
Is that thanks to the ring, too?
'Tis indeed.
Heh heh...

But I'd remain vigilant, if I were you.
Wotan!
In the heavens, you enjoy eternal bliss.
For my army of darkness will crawl out from the underground to the world of light.
You look down on us dwarves of darkness.
You insolent creature! I will end you!
The gods will surrender to me, and the goddesses will be my playthings.
What!?
Whoa, hold it!
Fwa ha ha ha hah...!
GRRR
Calm down!
Leave this to me.

When I wear this, I can change my form or disappear as I please.
Really?
Hmph
I have this.
Alberich, you certainly are amazing.
...if someone wanted to steal the ring from you when you were sleeping, how would you stop him?
But, say...
GRIN
...despite your kind concern for me.
I'm even safe against you...
So there's no need for worry.
Put it on and show me, then.
Transform into something that'll make me jump out of my skin.
CLENCH
カシ
Not unless I see it for myself.
Ha! I don't believe that helmet is magic.
I'm not a liar like you!

ᛦᛁᛗᛖᛗᚾ-ᚹᚢᚱᚾ.
ᚹᛁᚾᛞᛗ:ᛈᛁᚲᚺ:
ᚱᛁᛟᛗᚾᛞ
……!
ヴァ……ン
SWOOSH
AHHH!

Ah! Help us!
Ha ha ha ha!
Ha ha ha!
I see now, you scoundrel!
Transforming into a serpent is some sorcery.
Don't eat me!
Ahh!
THUMP THUMP
Look how huge he is!
Of course I was!
THUMP THUMP
Look at you.
THUMP
...were you really startled?
Say...
Do you believe me now?
ฮึ
SWISH
What do you think, you clever gods?

We were terrified.
Hmph ...!
But don't think you're off the hook just because you startled us with your size.
Are you still trying to point out faults...?
Come on, now.
No need for sour grapes, Alberich.
Can this magic do anything besides making you huge?
Try transforming into something tiny.
A clever man knows how to escape from any danger.
Or is that beyond your power?
Grr...
What size will satisfy you?
Watch me!
A toad can slip through any kind of gap.

SWISH
Now!
Grab him!
SWOOSH
SWIP
THWACK
Gweh...

Hold him until I can tie him up!
KRRR
Oh no!
Curses!
Hurry, Wotan! Let's go above ground.
We've done it!

Here we are
Look!

This is the world.
The world you hoped to rule one day.
Where do you plan on building...
...the stable you mean to keep me in?

Erk.
FWT
Swindlers!
Ruffians!
Cowardly thieves!
Sheesh
Untie me at once!
We have captured you...
...Alberich.
You plotted...
...to rule over all living things.
This is a fact you cannot deny.
Yet, now you are under my control.

But I will definitely take my revenge to make up for this blunder!
Dreaming such foolish dreams...
I was an idiot!
Argh!
Yet... I have no choice.
...I can get more gold afterwards.
As long as I have the ring...
SNAP
You should be worrying about paying us.
Well, you have to be freed before you can do that.
The gold of the under-ground realm.
What do you want?
You greedy rogue!

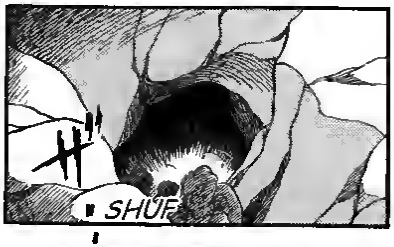
Untie my hands.

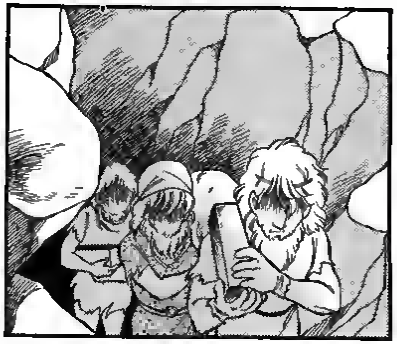
I will summon the trea-sure here.

I've ordered the Nibelung...

...to bring the treasure.

Ah. Here they come.





Here's your treasure.
Now let me go!
And give my helmet back!
SHOOP
This is part of our payment.
Curses.
I must withstand this...
I'll just have Mime make me another one.
This should be enough!
Now untie me.
Pile it up over there
Move faster!
Don't you look at me!
Hurry up and finish and then leave!

The ring!?
Should I let him go?
Are you satis-fied, Wotan?
The ring still sparkles on his finger.
Now hand it over.
Of course, the ring is part of the treasure.
Never!
It's... it's mine! My ring!
You'll have it over my dead body!
I want the ring!
SLAM

I'm fed up with you saying that the ring is yours.
You scoundrel!
Who did you steal it from!?
Or do you intend to tell me that the Rhine Maidens just handed it to you?
You're one to talk!
You're drawn to sin, yet you reproach me?
I finally gained this power after being tormented by rage...
...and now you're trying to steal it?
This is absurd!

...it will be the greatest sin of all ages.
But if you steal the ring... you, a god...
Leader of the gods, beware!
I've merely sinned against myself.
You will defile the sacredness of the gods.
Silence!
Hand over the ring!

THUD
SWIFF
Ha ha!
Finally...
I will be the most powerful of them all!
...!

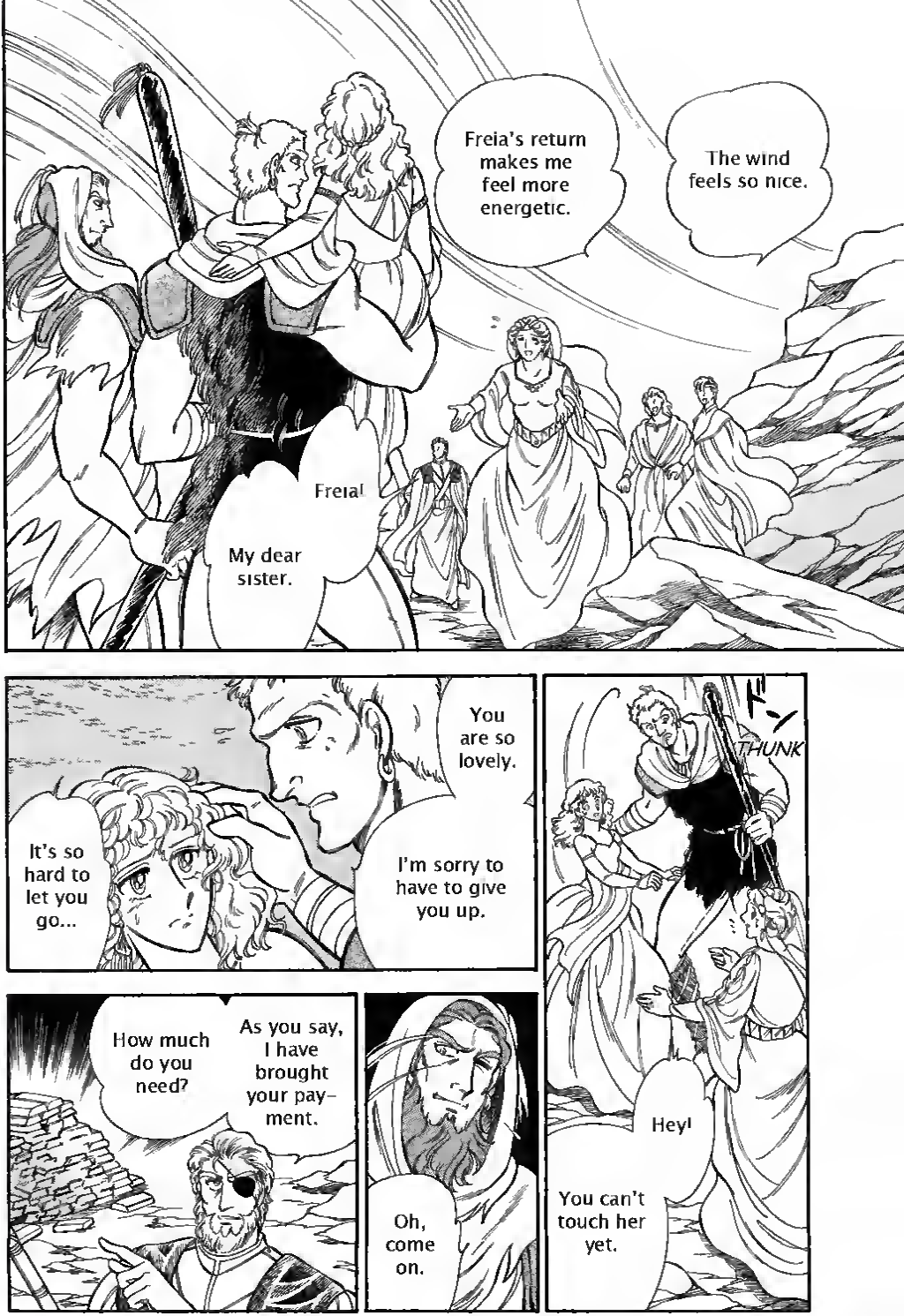
So... should I let him go?
Release him.
Go...
...be gone.
...
Am I truly... free?
Is this freedom...?
Well then...
I'll bid my first greetings as a free man

Your magic shall bring death to your master.
Ring!
My curse brought that ring to me.
So...
I shall set another curse.

Those who don't have the ring will fly into a jealous rage!
The bearer will suffer agony and be murdered!
Everyone will become slaves of the ring and meet their fated deaths.
Yes...
Until it comes back to me, its true master!

Take good care of it. Heh heh.
Wotan...
...you cannot escape the curse of the ring.
HA HA HA
HA HA HA

...
They're back!
Welcome home, darling!
Do you have good news?
Well? Did you find that amusing?
Let him say what he wants.
The giants are bringing Freia.
How did it go?
It went well. Look!
This will pay for Freia's release.


Freia's return makes me feel more energetic.
The wind feels so nice.
Freia!
My dear sister.
You are so lovely.
It's so hard to let you go...
I'm sorry to have to give you up.
ドン
THUNK
Hey!
You can't touch her yet.
How much do you need?
As you say, I have brought your payment.
Oh, come on.

Let's use this to measure it.
THUNK
You can see how my brother is.
To make him forget Freia...
...stack up enough gold to erase her from his memory.
Stand up straight, woman! We need to see how tall you are!
Don't leave so many gaps.
Pack it in tight!
Don't you speak to Freia like that!
Just get this over with!
We must quickly erase her dishonor.
Argh ...
...this is irritating.
All right, all right!
Will you shut up already?

How can you measure the worth of a woman in gold!?
What an insult!
I can still see the top of her head.
Hey, Loge! Put that thing on top!
Huh?
This?
Go on, give it to him.
Tsk... Fine.

Hmm...
Huh?
I can see them through the gap.
Like stars... gazing at me.
I can still see her eyes!
All right, listen up...
Freia!
...you must cover this hole.
Ah...
I guess this is goodbye to Freia...
This is breaking my heart ...

What?
Come on, can't you see?
There is no treasure left!
You haven't forgotten the most important thing, have you?
That.
The gold ring...
...sparkling on Wotan's finger.
Wait! Wotan is going to return that ring to the Rhine Maidens.
That's why he stole it.
What are you saying!? It's mine.
What... no!
But my promise to the maidens...
Why should I be bound by some promise you made?
I will hear no more of this.

Well then ...
This is the end of our deal.
No!
ぐい
YANK
I'm taking Freia back with me.
Help me!
Tell me what else you want.
I'll give you anything...
...except the ring.
You must compro-mise!
Give it to him, Wotan!
Just let it go!
Darling, please!
You must save my sister!
Silence!
I will not give up the ring.
Not the ring...

What...!

Stay away...
Wotan...
...stay away.
Run away from this curse.
If you are to possess the ring...
...it will be your ruin
Who are you...?
I am Erda...
...the ancient, primordial wave.
I came to give you guidance

Listen well.
Everything will perish.
Days of anguish are coming to the gods.
I can see all, past and future.
Today, I've come because of this urgent situation.
This is told by the three Norns I gave birth to in the beginning of the world.
You must get rid of the ring.
...
Remember this... and have fear...
SSST
I've said all there is to say.
Tell me more.
Your words have a mysterious power...

Stop, brother!
What are you doing?
Darling!
We must follow the advice of that noble woman.
Wait! Erda.
If I have something to fear...
...then tell me more!
Freia, come back!
I will save you!

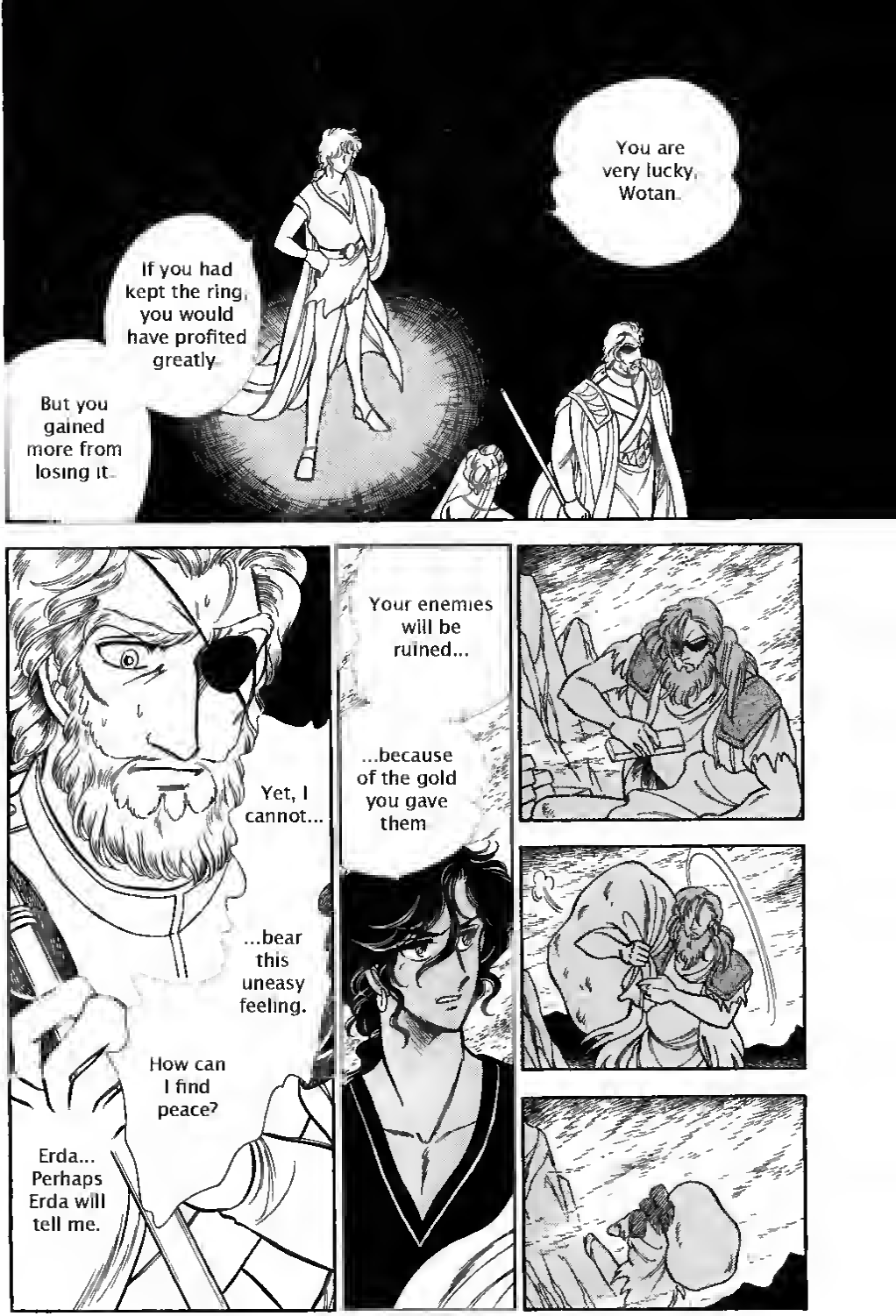
Giants, here's the ring!
Take it!
WHOA
キーン!
CLINK
Hold it, you hog!
Give me some of that.
No! I have the right to the greater part.
I'm the one who convinced the idiot that you are...
...to give up the woman for it.

How about you give all the treasure to your brother...
...and you take only the ring?
Gods, you be the judges!
Divide this treasure up fairly!
Calling me an idiot?
You bastard!
How dare you talk to me like that?
The ring is mine!
Give it!
That's mine...
I gave up Freia's gaze for it!
Let go!

It's mine!
My ring!
All right, then. Hold on to it tight!
WHOOM
KERBAM

THUD
HA HA HA
Enjoy the memory of Freia's embrace.
The ring is mine forever.
...!
SWIFF

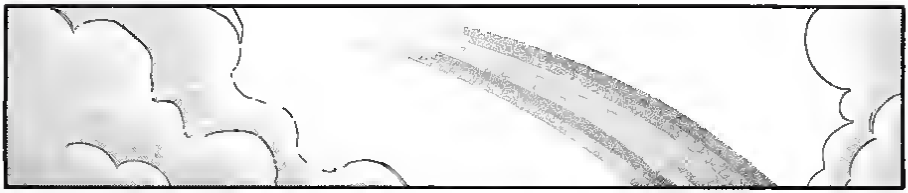
Everyone will meet their fated deaths.
Now I begin to see how terrible the curse is.
That ring is horrible!
Freia...
...he didn't have to be killed!
Fasolt was an awful man, but...

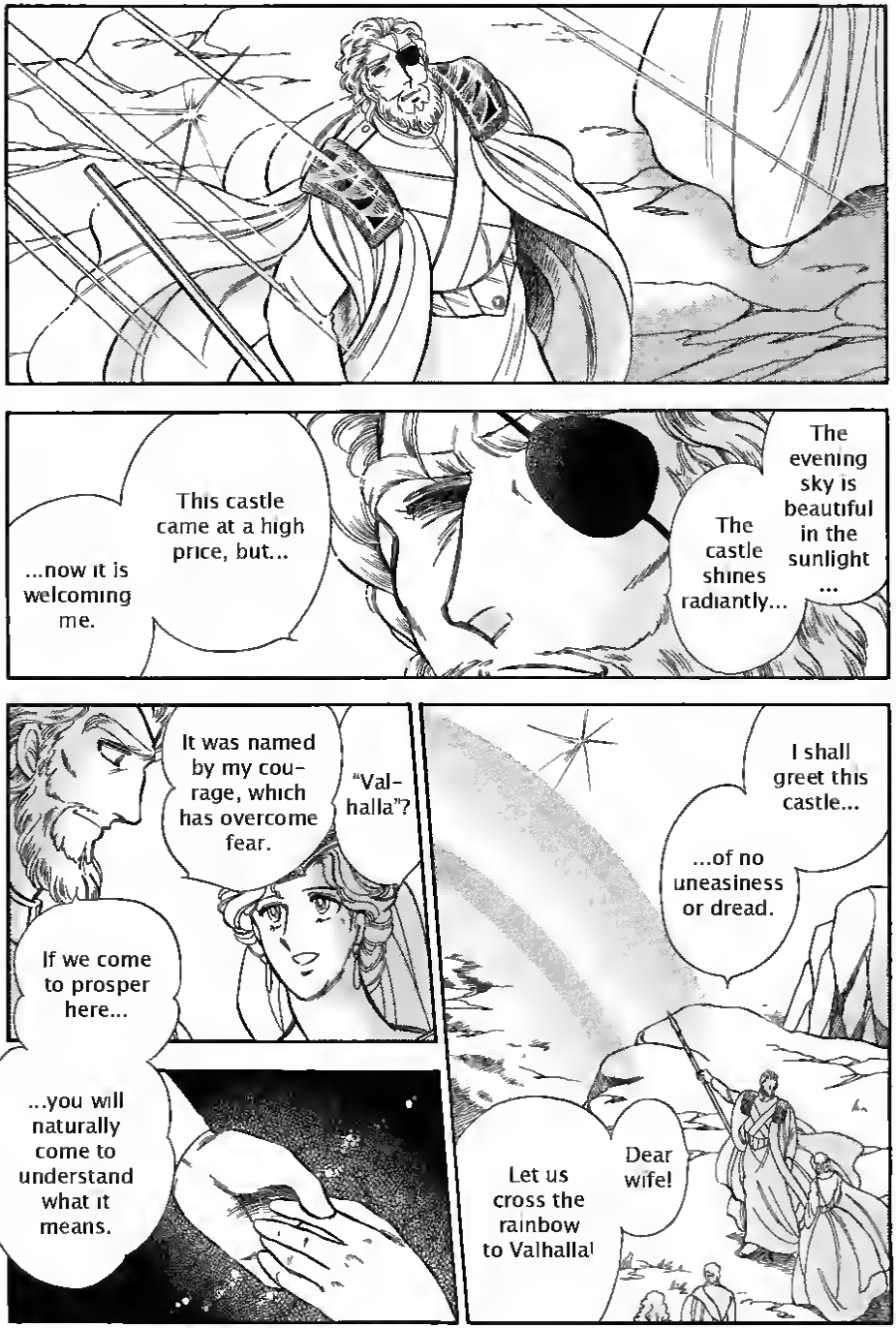

You are very lucky, Wotan.
If you had kept the ring, you would have profited greatly.
But you gained more from losing it.
Your enemies will be ruined...
...because of the gold you gave them
Yet, I cannot...
...bear this uneasy feeling.
How can I find peace?
Erda... Perhaps Erda will tell me.

This gloomy atmosphere dampens the spirit.
It must be why you feel depressed.
What's on your mind?
I had to make an evil trade-off to build that castle.
The castle is waiting for its new lord.
Please, relax.
I shall gather the pale clouds...
...bring the lightening, and clear the heavens.
Ho!
Swelling clouds!
Streaming mist!
Hooo!
...

RUMBLE
ゴロ…
ゴロ…
RUMBLE
Your god summons you!
Come to my hammer!
Come gather!
Come to me!
CRACKLE!
Ho!
Hooo!
…
RUMBLE

BASHOOM
Froh...
...come here and summon a rainbow bridge.




The evening sky is beautiful in the sunlight ...
The castle shines radiantly...
This castle came at a high price, but...
...now it is welcoming me.
"Valhalla"?
It was named by my courage, which has overcome fear.
If we come to prosper here...
...you will naturally come to understand what it means.
I shall greet this castle...
...of no uneasiness or dread.
Dear wife!
Let us cross the rainbow to Valhalla!

The gods shall flourish for all time.
Yes...
No!
The day of destruction is approa-ching.
They believe they will endure...
...as they hasten towards their demise.
I see that clearly now.

This castle, built through deception, will not last.
You gods that forced me to obey you...
...if you are choosing the path to your demise, then be ruined.
I tried to love you, but I cannot. Perhaps I'll return to a brightly burning flame.
Rhine Gold...
Pure gold...
You had such a gentle sparkle.
We grieve for you.
...

...
Come back to us, Rhine Gold...
...
I hear sad voices.
The divine gods are blind...
...and cannot see what is in front of them.
...are lamenting over their stolen gold.
The Rhine Maidens...
Shine once again...
...on the bottom of the Rhine...
...
I don't intend to perish with them.
Those nymphs were unlucky.
Make them stop wailing.
So what should I do?

The world above is full of deception and cruelty...

Love and truth only exist if you are here on the bottom of the river...

Come back to us...

Rhine Gold... Rhine Gold...

Einzug der Götter in Walhall

The Ring of the Nibelung
Prologue: Rhine Gold /End

Ring of the Nibelung Vol.1

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